

Official newsletter of the  
Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron

[www.usps-atlanta.org](http://www.usps-atlanta.org)



# WATERLOG



**Cruise the Tennessee**

**The First 100 Days**

**Happy Independence Day!**  
**Long may it wave!**

**It's Officially Summer!!!**

**Atoms or Bits**



## Commander's Message

### 100 DAYS REPORT



*Cdr. Ed Troncalli, SN*

At the time of this writing, Genie and I are looking forward to having the Squadron celebrate the Summer Solstice with us at our home on Lake Lanier. Here are some of the highlights of our Squadron activities since the Change of Watch in February.

- We hosted the D17 Conference and Change of Watch.
- Three great General Membership Meetings at the Foghorn Grill.
- A wild ride in a storm rafted up to the "Lawful Flight".
- Three Helm Awards have been presented.
- A lot of excellent Squadron exposure during Safety Week.
- Two new Boat Smart locations.

#### Statistics:

- Weather, Piloting & Navigation; 32 students
- Boat Smart; 53 Students (all passed)
- New Members; 26
- Vessel Safety Exams; 28

#### News:

- Our first New Member Electronic Vote was a success.
- Our Waterlog has a new look.
- A new format for our New Member Packets.
- Membership renewals going well.

#### Looking forward:

- New Boat Smart class format for '04.
- New Squadron Policies & Procedures Manual.
- Expanded Electronic Communications Committee.
- Electronic Waterlog.

#### Congratulations:

Lt. Russ Gall has been promoted to the rank of 1<sup>st</sup>/L. to serve as our Squadron Assistant Secretary.

As you can see from this report, so many have done so much for our Squadron. Please accept my thanks for making this a really enjoyable 100 days!

Enthusiastically!

Ed Troncalli, SN

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Cover photo: The ensign and Squadron burgee flying above Cdr Troncalli's dock

### The Waterlog

The Waterlog is published monthly, with at least 10 issues per year. It is published by and for the squadron members by the staff of the Squadron Secretary and is mailed to the listed address of all current members and advertisers.

All members in good standing, and approved non-member advertisers may submit articles and items for publication. They receive no gratuity.

The editors reserves the right to revise, change or reject any materials submitted to the Waterlog, consistent with standards of accuracy, fairness, good taste and available space, subject to the approval of the Squadron Commander.

#### Please send comments and suggestions to:-

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 Atlanta, GA 30319  
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 E-mail: waterlog@usps-atlanta.org



# Squadron Happenings



## SAFE BOATING WEEK

by D/Lt. Elliot Hammer

The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron observed Safe Boating Week on Saturday, 24 May 2003 with volunteers at eight locations across north Atlanta. The volunteers who participated in this effort were George Sargent, Ryan Troncalli, Randall Tahsler, Ed Troncalli, John Fowler III, Kathy Underheim, John Speiser, Nancy Leathers, Leslie DeBusk, Melanie Spain, Nan Marie Putnam, Nancy Spraker, Jim Benton, Russ Gall, John Mann and Elliot Hammer. All did an outstanding job, so much so that we have been invited back to every location for next year's Safe Boating Week.

## TENNESSEE RIVER CRUISE, 25-27 JULY

The Atlanta Squadron will have a good representation at the third annual Eueche Invitational Cruise, hosted by the Knoxville Power Squadron 25-27 July 2003 at the Eueche Marina, Ten Mile, TN. And it's not too late to join the fun. Contact Lts. Doug and Patty Watson at 770-458-1649 for reservations.

On Friday, 25 July, our squadron will trailer our boats to Chickamauga Marina, just north of Chattanooga. We will cruise up the Tennessee River approximately 60 nautical miles to Eueche Marina. Cruise departure time is 1000.

Along the way we will go through the locks at Watts Bar Dam. Administrative Officer Lt/C Jeff Wise says: "If you have a trailerable boat, you won't want to miss it--this is going to be a superb experience. We expect to have 8-10 boats, so there'll be plenty of room for those without boats or who can't trailer."

Eueche Marina is located on the Tennessee River approximately five miles upriver from Watts Bar Dam. It is a full service marina with slips to accommodate any size boat, a launch ramp, fuel dock, boat and PWC rentals, and an excellent restaurant - The Lighthouse. A pump-out facility is expected to be operational prior to the event.

Activities include the river cruise, time to socialize Friday evening, and a raft-up on Saturday.

Costs for individual dock slips are \$30 per night, including water and power (30 and 50 amp available). Motel rooms will cost approximately \$100 per night. Half the rooms are two-bedroom units, and all include a kitchenette. You can visit the marina web site at <http://www.euchemarina.com/>.



Locking through  
at Watts Bar Dam

## DIRECTIONS

- Follow I-75 N through Chattanooga to exit 4.
- Follow Hwy 153N approx 5 mi.
- Take exit to Chickamauga Lake
- Turn right onto Amnicola Hwy. Proceed approx 1.5 mi to Holman Rd
- Turn left on Kings Pt Rd.
- Chickamauga Marina is located at 3001 Kings Pt Rd.

## GRASS SKIRTS AND COCONUTS

By Lt. Patti Watson

The July on-the-water event will be our annual Luau on Saturday, 12 July. Everyone grab your grass skirts, Hawaiian shirts and coconuts filled with pina colodas or whatever, and join us at the cove between markers 6SM and 2FM. Festivities begin at 1400. Bring *hors d'oeuvres* to share and your favorite beverages. A prize will be awarded for the best decorated boat, but undecorated boats are welcome, too. See you there. Aloha!!

## ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION

The Waterlog is transitioning from atoms to bits. Recall the survey about electronic versus paper distribution of the *Waterlog* that appeared in the June edition? Based on the responses to that survey, and subsequent discussion by the Executive Committee, we are ready to begin electronic distribution.

But don't worry, we'll make sure you won't miss your edition.

Electronic distribution will be phased in over the next two or three issues. This issue was sent by first class mail as usual to all members except those who returned the survey indicating their interest in a trial of e-mail distribution. These "early adopters" will not receive a paper copy in the mail. Instead, they will receive an e-mail the contains a link to our website where this issue is stored. All other members with e-mail addresses will receive the usual paper copy as well as the e-mail notification.

In order to make the electronic version more user friendly, the pages will be formatted without columns. This prevents the need for scrolling up and down when reading on the screen. The content will be the same, but the appearance will be a little different.

If you receive the e-mail link, please take a minute to try it out. Let us know if you would prefer to receive the *Waterlog* only by e-mail. If we don't hear from you, we will continue to mail paper copies to you.

E-mail distribution will generate significant cost savings to the squadron. But we recognize that it's not for everybody, and we will continue to mail copies to all who prefer to receive it that way.

If you would like to receive future issues by e-mail only, send an e-mail to [waterlog@usps-atlanta.org](mailto:waterlog@usps-atlanta.org) and let us know.

# Squadron Happenings

## IT'S OFFICIALLY SUMMER!!!

It may have been the first day of summer, but the weather was more like a perfect spring day as approximately fifty squadron members, their families and guests enjoyed the hospitality of Ed and Genie Troncalli on Saturday, 21 June. Twelve parties arrived by boat, creating a near traffic jam in the quiet cove off Young Deer Creek.



At exactly 19hours, 10minutes, 27.063705 seconds Coordinated Universal Time (15:10:27 EDT), Administrative Officer Lt/C Jeff Wise announced the solstice, and the official beginning of summer. Executive Officer Lt/C Hans Meiers took command of the grill, as Lt. Patty Watson and her able assistants prepared the rest of the food. Everyone enjoyed a feast of burgers, hot dogs, bratwursts and all the trimmings.



Dessert featured a special cake and giant "Thank You" card for George Sargent, wishing him well as he leaves us soon for Maine.

Then the group moved back to the shore for the great Cardboard Boat Race. This year's event featured the "No Joke V" commanded by defending champion P/C Don Williams. The contender was the "Viking Challenger" under the command of Cdr Ed Troncalli and ably crewed by Lt Ryan Troncalli. The "Viking Challenger" prevailed as the "No Joke V" took on water and capsized. Capt. Williams was able to save his ensign and his cigar, as the "No Joke V" met a watery demise.

Lt. Frank Taylor completed several vessel safety checks as members took advantage of the opportunity to have their boats inspected.

A few diehards prevailed further on the Troncalli's hospitality and spent the night at their dock.

The planners and coordinators did an outstanding job putting together an excellent kick-off for the season.



*The "Viking Challenger" takes on the "No Joke V"*

*Thank you, George!!*

*Dave Crumbley and Patti Price sail into the sunset*



# District Happenings

**UNITED STATES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON** ✂  
**DISTRICT 17 SUMMER CONFERENCE**

*1-2 Aug 2003  
 Ramada Inn East  
 Montgomery, AL*

Activities

***Fri, 1 Aug, Dress code: Blazer or Mufti:***

1500-1800	Registration	Main Lobby
1700-1900	Hospitality Suite (set-ups only)	uite 102
1900-2100	Dinner buffet	Salons A, B, C

***Sat, 2 Aug, Dress code: Casual***

0600-0800	Breakfast bar and Registration	Main Lobby
0800-1045	District Conference -Call to Order -Roll Call -Welcome to Montgomery -Approval of Minutes -Fall Conference information -Spring Conference information -Committee reports -Rules -Audits -Planning -Nominating -Membership report -Budget proposal 2004-2005 -Old business -VSC -Nat'l Safe Boating Week -Nat'l roster -New business -District 50th anniversary	Salons A, B, C D/C Gary Meinkens, JN D/Lt/C Janis Owens, JN Cdr Tommy Shaw, S D/Lt/C Janis Owens, JN Memphis Squadron Muscogee Squadron D/Lt/C Marshall Herron, SN D/Lt/C Thomas Carey, SN
1045-1200	Lunch on your own Travel time to Lake Martin	

Choice of Activities

1200-1600	Cruise and Raft-up	StillWaters Resort Marina, Dadeville, AL
	OR	
	Visit historic Montgomery	Montgomery, AL
1600-1700	Return to Montgomery	
1700-1830	Hospitality Suite (set-ups only)	Suite 102
1900-2100	Dinner on your own	Copeland's Restaurant
2100	Adjourn	D/C Gary Meinkens, JN

**DISTRICT 17 2003 SUMMER COUNCIL  
 RESERVATION AND REGISTRATION**

UNITED STATES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRONS  
 Sponsored by: MONTGOMERY POWER SQUADRON  
 RAMADA INN—MONTGOMERY EAST  
 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
 1-2 AUGUST 2003

**DINNER RESERVATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Ofc phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner buffet includes roast beef, catfish filets, roast breast of turkey, garden salad, fruit salad, green beans, black-eyed peas, glazed carrots, oven roasted new potatoes, rolls, iced tea, coffee and apple cobbler.

Price: \$27.00 per person, includes tax and gratuity.

**TOTAL SUBMITTED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Reservations must be received not later than 28 July 2003.**

Make checks payable to: **Montgomery Power Squadron**

Mail reservation form with check to:

Lt/C Jerry Fossum  
 3515 Edgefield Rd  
 Montgomery, AL 36111-2214  
 334-288-3816  
 pipossum@worldnet.att.net

**If staying at the Ramada Inn-Montgomery East,  
 check here**

Room reservations at a special rate of \$57 per night plus tax must be made with the Ramada Inn, 1315 East Boulevard, Montgomery, AL 36117 not later than 10 July. 334-277-2200 or 800-240-2200. You must mention the Power Squadron to get the special rate.



# From the Bridge



## Fall Classes - Sign Up Now!!!

The Website has been activated and you can now sign up for Fall Classes. All classes will begin on Monday, 8 September, at 7:30PM at the Heiskell School. For all you new members, Seamanship is a good way to get started on your personal boating education. We are also offering the elective class of Sail, which is available to everyone and requires no prerequisites. For our Advanced Grade people, we will be offering both Advanced Piloting and Junior Navigation.

### Piloting

Lt/C Kevin Schoonover, AP  
[edu@usps-atlanta.org](mailto:edu@usps-atlanta.org)

Congratulations to Eric Fried, David & Lisa Herndon, Ned Nielsen, Andrew Wilson, and Jim Wolbrink for having successfully completed both the Open and Closed Book portions of the Piloting Course. Great work!! We look forward to seeing you on the roster for Advanced Piloting in the Fall.

### Elective Classes

Have you ever wondered:

What should I do if I was to arrive in a foreign port after hours or on a weekend or holiday (CP)?

**OR**

What is the cause of most fuel system problems (EM)?

**Or**

What is the best type of AC battery charger to be used on gel cell or deep cycle batteries (ME)?

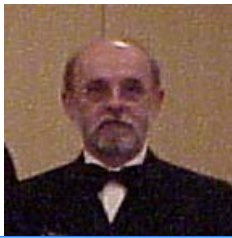
**OR**

If while on a cruise, what does it mean if you experience a gradual backing of the wind (W)?

These questions and many more are answered when you take one of the Elective courses offered by the Power Squadron. These classes are invaluable to the novice as well as the expert boater. Ask questions about things you want to know and hear stories of what others have seen and done.

Keep an eye on the upcoming class schedule and sign up.

## Education Officer



Lt/C Hans Meier, JN  
 Executive Officer  
[xo@usps-atlanta.org](mailto:xo@usps-atlanta.org)



Lt/C Keith Blanton, P  
 Secretary  
[secretary@usps-atlanta.org](mailto:secretary@usps-atlanta.org)



Lt/C Jeff Wise, JN  
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[admin@usps-atlanta.org](mailto:admin@usps-atlanta.org)



Lt/C Margaret Sherrod, AP  
 treasurer@usps-atlanta.org

## “100 FOOT LAW” APPLIES TO EVERYONE ON THE WATER

The “100-foot law” covers all vessels—not just personal watercraft. This law prohibits the operation of all vessels at greater than idle speed within 100 feet of any other vessel which is moored, anchored or adrift outside any traffic channels; or within 100 feet of any wharf, dock, pier, piling, bridge structure or abutment, person in the water; or within 100 feet of the shoreline adjacent to a full time or part time residence, public park, public beach, public swimming area, marina, restaurant, or other public use area. This law also makes it illegal for boat operators to:

- Jump the wake of another boat within 100 feet and buzz other boats;
- Operate around or within 100 feet of another vessel faster than idle speed unless he or she is overtaking or meeting the other vessel in compliance with the “rules of the road” for boat operation; or
- Follow closely behind another vessel, jump the wake of another vessel or change or reverse his or her course of direction in order to ride or jump in the wake of another vessel

Source: *Georgia Boating Laws in Information*

## WEATHER PROVERB

*Lightning from the west or northwest will reach you, Lightning from the south or southeast will pass you by.*

This is a true saying, [at least] in the north temperate zone. Lightning comes hand-in-hand with storm clouds, and thunderheads always loom over the horizon from the west or northwest, and usually move east.

Source: *Chapman's Piloting*, pg. 327

# The Bulletin Board

## Welcome, New Members!

- Randall and Susan Holland
- Bradley and Lisa Barks

### VERY IMPORTANT MEETING!!

Planning meeting for all participants in the TN River Cruise

Thur, 10 July, 1900 hours

Following the Ex Comm meeting  
The Hickory House Restaurant, Dunwoody

Contact Patti Watson for details and reser-

### Reno Governing Board - Tue-Sun, 2-7 Sept

Fellow USPS Member, District 25 and the Reno Hilton are always a winning combination for providing an exciting and entertaining governing board meeting. However, if you have not made your hotel reservation as yet please note the following information:

There is another large group in the hotel in addition to USPS whose reserved block of rooms was sold out long ago. They are looking for more rooms. While we have plenty of rooms reserved for USPS, our cutoff date is midnight 11 August. After that, our block will be released and the other group could fill them very quickly as there is a waiting list.

If you are planning to attend our wonderful meeting in Reno, please make sure that you have your hotel reservation made by MIDNIGHT 11 AUGUST. The toll free phone number is 800-648-5080 and the direct number is 775-789-2000.

R/C L. D. Brown, SN

## FALL CLASSES BEGIN 8 SEP

At the Heiskell School. Sign up now at

<http://ww2.usps-atlanta.org:8080/BoatingEducation.htm>

## USPS EVENTS: JULY 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Raft-up and Luau
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 TN River Cruise
27 TN River Cruise	28	29	30	31		

Ex Comm meeting at 1900 followed by planning meeting for the TN River Cruise. Don't miss it. The Hickory House Restaurant in Dunwoody.

## USPS EVENTS: AUGUST 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 D17 Summer Council	2 D17 Summer Council
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Nat'l Marinas Day
10	11	12	13	14 Ex Comm Mtg	15	16 On-the-water event
17	18	19	20	21 Gen'l Membership Mtg	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30



# Life on the Water



## YOU CAN'T HAVE TOO MANY FILTERS

by David Herndon

This past October, we took a four-day cruise on the ICW from Edisto Island, SC to Jekyll Island, GA. Our vessel was a thirty-two foot Albin sportfisher, the *Quintessence*, or more commonly, the *Q*.

A single-screw diesel, the *Q* had been re-powered a few weeks prior to our cruise. Because of previous problems with fuel contamination, we had an Algae-X unit installed in the fuel system, and we had religiously added biocide (an micro-organism-killing fuel supplement) with each refueling.

But these contaminants didn't go down easily. At the beginning we were able to maintain cruising speed for only about two hours before the primary fuel filter became so clogged it had to be replaced. I swear that a couple of times I could hear muffled laughter coming from the fuel tank. We began the trip with four spare filters. Along the way, we bought eight more. We spent almost as much on filters as we did on fuel.

Our filter-changing routine approached the efficiency of a NASCAR pit crew. When we detected a problem with engine performance, we would find a safe place to anchor or tie up. Lisa shut off the fuel supply valves while I dived into the bilge, bagged the old filter and installed the new one. She reopened valves as I cleaned up the spills – and myself - and we were on our way again in less than five minutes.

By the end of the trip we had more or less conquered this pesky – and inordinately ugly – gunk that had thrived in our fuel tanks. We were able to run more than four hours without problems.

For some time, numerous experts had been telling us that this gunk was algae that grows in the ever-present water in the fuel. While web-searching for a solution recently, I came across a most informative website: boatdiesel.com. Here I learned that the presence of algae in diesel fuel is a myth. There may be fungi and bacteria, but no algae. What appears as algae are actually precipitates of the fuel called asphaltenes, more commonly called “diesel sludge.” Asphaltenes result from the natural decomposition of the fuel blend over time. Instead of biocides, we should have been adding petroleum solvents each time we refueled.

What did we learn from all this? Just as you can't put old wine in new wineskins, you also can't put old diesel fuel in a new engine. If they say the algae eater will do it, be skeptical. To all those other axioms of boating, such as “Get extra batteries,” and “You always will need ice” please add “You can't have too many filters.” And do your homework.

## THREE DEGREES OF SEPARATION

by David Herndon

On a recent cruise on the ICW, we docked at the Charleston City Marina for a couple of hours to have lunch and refuel. While walking along the dock, I was admiring a yacht that was truly a beauty at eighty feet or more. Passing the stern, I noted the name, the *Nancy Lady*, and saw that the home port city was Utica followed by something ending in “Y”. The state abbreviation was partially obscured by a shore power cable. I assumed it was from Utica, NY, which with one exception, was the only Utica I knew about.

Upon returning, I took a closer look and saw that the *Nancy Lady* was from Utica, KY. Now that was a shock!

I grew up about ten miles from Utica, KY. To call it a town is being generous. It's really a crossroads with a gas station and a small cluster of houses in the middle of western Kentucky farmland. The nearest bodies of water are the Green and Ohio Rivers, neither of which are known for vessels of these dimensions.

Because inquiring minds want to know, I called my mother, who lives nearby, and asked her to find out who from Utica could own a boat like that. The next morning she called back with the answer. The *Nancy Lady* is owned by a friend of a friend of hers—three degrees of separation. The owner's former husband had been a successful farmer and farm supply dealer, and she has an affinity for the Low Country.

I left word that when the *Nancy Lady* needed crew, give me a call.



*Utica, KY, denoted by the star, is a long way from Charleston, SC (don't be confused by Charleston, WV) and doesn't appear as the home port on the stern of many boats..*

## CHECKLIST FOR USING ELECTRICAL ADAPTERS

- Outlets and equipment must be of the same voltage rating.
- Total amperage drawn should never be allowed to exceed the amperage rating of the lowest-rated component of the adapter.
- Polarity and grounding continuity must be maintained.

Source: *Chapman's Piloting*, pg 535





# AFTerthoughts

## Are You Safe?

### *A checklist for safe boating*

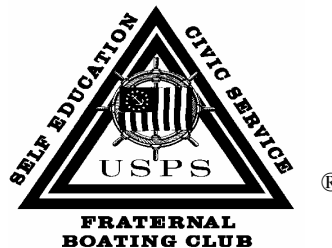
- Documentation: proper numbers and letters on both sides of the hull; registration and record of ownership on board.
- Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs): one device of appropriate size in good condition per individual on board, readily accessible. Boats of 16 ft or longer must have a throwable PFD.
- Visual Distress Signals: red flares, orange smoke, orange distress flag. Ensure pyrotechnic devices are not expired.
- Fire extinguisher(s): boats under 26 feet require either a B-I or B-II type extinguisher. Larger boats require 2 B-Is or one B-II.
- Ventilation: adequate ventilation for enclosed compartments containing fuel and engines.
- Backfire flame arrestors: compliant device must be mounted on the carburetor of all gasoline engines (outboards excluded).
- Sound producing device: whistle, siren or horn required for boats less than 39.4 ft. Must produce a 4 second blast audible for a half mile.
- Navigation lights: boats 16 feet and larger require red, green and white running lights, and a separate all-around white anchor light.
- Overall vessel condition: clean bilge; engine horsepower cannot exceed hull capacity; protected electrical system; wiring in good condition; secured batteries and terminals; properly working kill switch.
- Fuel system: compliant portable fuel tanks; adequate ventilation for installed tanks.
- Required plaques: boats 25 feet and larger must display 2 affixed plaques: (1) MARPOL—prohibitions regarding trash disposal, and (2) prohibitions against discharge of petroleum products into the water.



Happy and safe boating!

Source: *BoatUS Trailing*, June/July 2003

Lisa & David Herndon  
1332 Cambridge Ct.  
Atlanta, GA 30319



STAMP